

U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative



2014 Leaders For Democracy Fellowship

Application Deadline: **November 13, 2013**

The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a is pleased to announce the eighth year of its Leaders for Democracy Fellowship (LDF) project (English). This fellowship, organized by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), provides outstanding Yemenis working in the field of political reform with an intensive academic and practical training program in the U.S.

The program will take place from March 22 to June 21, 2014, at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in Syracuse, New York. The LDF project begins with five weeks of academic coursework that addresses topics of leadership, democracy, democratic transitions around the globe, comparative politics, civil society, communication, conflict resolution, and change management, among others. Fellows are expected to be active participants in all seminars and workshops that include theoretical debates as well as active skills-building sessions. Participants are also expected to lead discussions and make presentations to the Fellows and the broader Maxwell School community.

After completing the academic portion of the project, each participant will engage in a seven-week professional assignment with a relevant political, non-governmental or public policy organization in Washington, D.C. Through this component of the project, participants will gain practical experience about the ways that such institutions interact with government and civil society while also gaining valuable knowledge, experience, skills and further professional contacts to benefit their respective professional pursuits back home.

MEPI will cover international and domestic travel, health insurance, housing, and a moderate living stipend in the United States for all Fellows. All Fellows will travel to the United States in unaccompanied status.

Ideal candidates should:

- Be between the ages of 25 and 40.
- Be fluent in the English language
- Have a Bachelor's degree
- Have at least five years of working experience

- Plan to remain working in the field of political reform for the foreseeable future
- he has demonstrated a commitment and desire to remain working in this field for the foreseeable future and an equal commitment to being a leader of positive change within his or her own country;
- She/he has not already completed a similar academic degree or internship in the United States, and is not subject to J-visa restrictions;
- Have no prior travel to the U.S. or be subject to J-visa restrictions

For more information about this program, please visit:

<http://yemen.usembassy.gov/root/pdfs/themiddleeastpartnershipinitiativ.pdf>

To apply, please send the following to PASSanaa@state.gov:

- Your current CV;
- An essay written in English, maximum length 1,000 words, answering the following questions:
 1. How will a MEPI Leaders for Democracy Fellowship enable you to better lead your community or country towards greater democracy and citizen participation in the institutions and activities of government?
 2. Specifically, what do you hope to gain from this project and what are your plans to apply the experience it offers? -- What changes do you hope to bring about in your country during the next 10 years?

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Affairs section of the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a at PASSanaa@state.gov